

STANDARD OIL ON THE RACK

Department of Justice Begins Suit at St. Louis to Kill Giant Trust.

The Petition Filed Asks That the Combination Be Declared Unlawful and Restrained from Doing Business—History of the Monopoly and How It Is Alleged to Restrict Trade—Its Enormous Profits.

The War on the Standard.

St. Louis.—Petition filed in United States circuit court asking for dissolution of Standard Oil trust and perpetual injunction restraining 19 constituent companies from working with or paying dividends to parent company.

New York.—Standard Oil shares dropped 15 points, making net loss of 150 points since Roosevelt's war on the trust began. Total depreciation in stock since president opened crusade, \$70,000,000. This notwithstanding quarterly dividends of \$10 per share.

Florida.—O.—Presiding attorney directed by Attorney General Kilgus to keep grand jury in session. All Standard Oil officials may be indicted, officials of Standard Oil company of Ohio indicted agreed to surrender.

St. Louis, Mo.—The suit to break up the Standard Oil trust has been filed in the United States circuit court here. The petition asks:

That the court decree that the combination and conspiracy are unlawful under the Sherman anti-trust act. That the Standard Oil company be enjoined, restrained and prohibited from exercising any control over its affiliated corporations, or any of them, by the election or appointment of directors or officers, or in any other manner.

That the subsidiary corporations be enjoined from declaring or paying any dividends to the Standard Oil company of New Jersey.

That the defendants and each and all of them be enjoined from entering into any contract, the purpose or effect of which is to restrain commerce in petroleum and its products or to monopolize the same.

The petition contains 194 pages of printed matter, or about 100,000 words, and an additional 84 pages of exhibits, consisting of by-laws and minutes of Standard Oil meetings and organizations, and a map showing the retail prices of oil in every state and territory of the union.

What the Petition Alleges.

It is alleged in the petition that John D. Rockefeller and his associates, the other individual defendants, formed a conspiracy to monopolize the commerce in petroleum and its products at an early date—about the year 1870—and that the same individuals have controlled the combination during all these years, in all its forms, and now control it. It was, therefore, deemed wise to state in the petition the complete history and growth of this conspiracy.

History of the Conspiracy.

The petition is logically divided into three periods. During the first one of these periods, from 1870 to 1882, the combination assumed the form of a simple conspiracy—that is to say, the defendants, with the Standard Oil company of Ohio, acted together to suppress competition and control the oil business.

During the second period, from 1882 to 1899, the combination assumed the form of a trust agreement, whereby about 40 separate corporations engaged in the same business, turned over the management of their business to nine trustees, of which these individual defendants were the majority, so that these defendants controlled all of these corporations.

In March, 1892, the supreme court of Ohio declared this trust agreement void and ordered its dissolution. Thereupon, on March 21, 1892, the trust certificate holders met in New York and resolved to dissolve the trust and appointed John D. Rockefeller, Henry M. Flagler, William Rockefeller, John D. Archbold, Benjamin Brewster, Henry H. Rogers, Wesley H. Tiltford and O. B. Jennings as liquidating trustees—the individual defendants being a majority of these trustees.

The manner of liquidation was not to sell the property and divide the proceeds among the certificate holders, nor to return to each person individually the property placed in the trust, but all of the stocks in each of the companies were divided into portions in proportion to the number of trust certificate shares outstanding, so that Rockefeller and his associates continued to control all these corporations as before.

Birth of the Present Trust.

The petition then takes up the third period of the conspiracy, beginning with the formation of the present trust.

In order to accomplish this, in January, 1899, they increased the stock

of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey from \$10,000,000 to \$110,000,000, and made it the holding corporation and placed the control through stock ownership of all the corporations previously held by the trusts into the said company, and exchanged its stock for the stock so acquired, share for share, issuing therefor \$57,250,000 par value—the exact amount of the trust certificates previously issued by the trustees.

The stock of this company was increased by a small amount, and is now \$58,235,300.

Some Standard Oil Methods.

The petition then shows the methods employed by the Standard Oil company to monopolize the oil business. These include discriminating contracts with the railroad companies, manipulation of rates, local price cutting, bogus independent companies, etc.

The bill sets up among others a contract between the Standard Oil company and the Tidewater Pipe company whereby the Tidewater company is limited to 11 1/2 per cent of certain business in Pennsylvania and New York, and the Standard Oil company to receive 88 1/2 per cent of the business, the Standard Oil company guaranteeing the Tidewater company \$500,000 per annum profits, thereby eliminating all competition between them.

The bill alleges a contract made with the Pennsylvania railroad company in 1884, which was in existence until 1906, by which the Standard Oil company was able to maintain the public charges for transporting crude oil from western Pennsylvania at 40 and 45 cents a barrel to Philadelphia and New York respectively. The Standard Oil company, through its own pipe lines, transported the oil for eight cents a barrel.

It is alleged that the defendants, through the Standard Oil company and the other corporations, are engaged in producing, purchasing and transporting petroleum in the various producing districts in the United States, principally situated in New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Texas, Colorado and California; that they own and control nearly all of the pipe lines in said states, and other pipe lines extending from Kansas to the seaboard, also pipe lines in Texas and in California; that they own a large number of tank cars and steamships engaged in transporting oil; and that the said defendants have, through the instrumentality of the Standard Oil company of New Jersey (a holding corporation), eliminated competition between all of the separate corporations and monopolized the commerce in oil in the United States.

Control the Pipe Lines.

It is alleged that the Standard Oil company has had control of the carrying business by pipe lines in and from all the oil producing regions of the United States except Texas, Louisiana and California; that they charged excessive and unreasonable rates, and rates which were discriminatory in favor of the Standard Oil company; that they have refused to furnish equal facilities for receiving and delivering oil of independent shippers and refiners; that they have refused to transport oil belonging to others than the defendants and their associated companies, and since the month of August, 1906, have refused to transport oil of others except in such large quantities as to completely prevent independent producers and refiners of oil from using their service, and that they have forced 16 independent refiners now doing business in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and producing their crude oil through the Standard Oil company's pipe lines, to sell all of their export oil to the Standard Oil company thereby eliminating their competition. This contract was procured through threats of the Standard Oil company to reduce the amount of crude oil which it would sell to the independent refiners.

Enjoy Preferential Rates.

It is alleged that one of the principal instrumentalities through which the defendants have been enabled to monopolize the commerce in petroleum and its products throughout the United States has been a system of preferential rates, and rates discriminatory against the competitors of the Standard Oil company, both in open and through secret and unpublished rates, both interstate and intrastate, and by rebates, concessions, and preferences granted to the Standard Oil company and its subsidiary corporations.

How They Control Railroads.

It is alleged that the individual defendants and other individuals associated with them and interested with them in the Standard Oil trust have acquired large interests in the stocks of the principal railroads of the United States and have caused themselves to be elected or have caused other persons acting in their interest to be elected as members of the boards of directors of such railroads. By reason of such ownership and representation on the boards of directors of such railroads the individual defendants have influenced the railroads to establish and maintain the discriminatory rates.

Among the railroads in which the defendants are interested and upon the boards of directors of which they have representation (together with the names of directors) are the following:

William Rockefeller—Central New England, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul; Delaware, Lackawanna and Western; Lake Shore and Michigan Southern; Michigan Central, New York Central; New York, Chicago and St. Louis; New York, New Haven and Hartford; New York, Ontario and Western; New York and Ottawa; Pittsburg and Lake Erie; Rutland.

Henry H. Rogers—Santa Fe, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul; Union Pacific.

Charles M. Pratt—Boston and Maine, Evansville and Terre Haute; Long Island.

Henry M. Flagler—Florida East Coast.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr.—Delaware, Lackawanna and Western; Missouri Pacific.

William G. Rockefeller—Union Pacific.

H. Clay Pierce—Kansas City Southern, St. Louis and San Francisco.

C. W. Harkness—Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul.

F. T. Gates—Missouri Pacific, Wisconsin Central.

The petition then recites the Standard Oil trust's monopoly of the sale of lubricating oils to railroads, its unfair methods of competition in the cutting of local prices, the formation of bogus independent companies, the payment of rebates on oil prices, and the division of territory.

Tells of Stupendous Profits.

It is alleged that by reason of its monopoly the Standard Oil company has made enormous and unreasonable profits on the actual value of its property; that the trustees' valuation of all the property and stocks placed in their hands in 1882 was \$55,710,698.24. The additional property purchased or acquired by the issue of trust certificates was \$13,310,100, so that the total value of all property controlled by the Standard Oil company of New Jersey, except such as may have been purchased from earnings, is \$69,020,798.24, according to their own valuation.

Upon this capital the Standard has from 1882 to 1895, inclusive, paid \$512,940,084.50 of dividends, and has created a large surplus—the exact surplus the petitioner is unable to state, because the Standard has not published any statements since 1896. But from 1882 to 1896 its surplus, according to its own statements, was \$79,536,025.14, and it is alleged that its property at the present time exceeds the value of \$290,000,000. Its annual dividends during the last nine years have run from 33 to 48 per cent per annum, in addition to this large surplus.

As Interpreted.

Mayne—George declared he would gladly go through fire and water for me.

Edyth—That means he will look after the furnace and keep your wash-tubs filled after marriage.—Chicago Daily News.

Perhaps Put to Better Use. A church in London still draws an income which was bequeathed it for the purpose of buying wood where with to burn heretics.

Different Then. Husband—It's strange that I can never find anything about the house that belongs to me without your assistance.

Wife—How did you manage before we were married, dear?

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A man may not have much faith in doctors, up to the time when the first baby arrives in his house. After that he regards them with awe.

We should choose for a wife only such a woman as we should choose for a friend were she a man.

A progressive Arab of Cairo is sinking wells and installing irrigation pumps at the foot of the pyramid of Cheops, and the Sphinx, after gazing thousands of years on sand wastes, soon will be looking out on green fields. This is one of the many demonstrations of the change from the old to the new Egypt.

Testing Butter. Here is a certain butter test: Melt a little on some hot bonyon in your breakfast plate and taste it. The fraud will establish itself instantly. Print butter fetches a bigger price than ordinary tub butter. There is an extra charge for manipulation and wrapping the pound pieces in paraffin paper. But in my travels I have met print butter that was made up of "cooking thirds." Make sure of your butter dealer, then go ahead.—New York Press.

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natory against the competitors of the Standard Oil company, both in open and through secret and unpublished rates, both interstate and intrastate, and by rebates, concessions, and preferences granted to the Standard Oil company and its subsidiary corporations.

The bill goes into the details of many of these rates, and shows a systematic discrimination, substantially all over the United States, so that rates from Standard shipping points are much lower, for the same distance proportionately and per ton per mile, than from shipping points of independent competing concerns. These differences in most instances amount to more than a reasonable profit upon the oil.

Some Sample Discriminations.

The regular published rate from Whiting, Ind., to Evansville, Ind., through Illinois, for instance, was 11 cents per hundred pounds. Most of the oil shipped by the Standard company was shipped at 8 1/4 cents and 5 cents per hundred pounds. The Standard had a rate from Whiting, Ind., to Grand Junction, Tenn., of 13 cents per hundred pounds, and large quantities of oil were distributed from Grand Junction all over this southern territory on secret rates which never were published, as required by law, or filed with the interstate commerce commission.

The petition alleges that for about ten years prior to 1905 secret and unpublished rates were made from Whiting, Ind., to East St. Louis, of 6, 8 1/4 and 6 1/2 cents on the various railroads, which oil was destined to St. Louis and to a large territory south and southwest of those points, while the regular published rate was 13 cents per hundred pounds.

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Missouri Gleanings.

An Anti-Lobby Bill.

Jefferson City—Gov. J. W. Folk has drafted a stringent anti-lobby bill, which will be introduced on the first day of the next session of the legislature. If enacted into law, not even the representatives of state institutions will be permitted upon the floor of either branch of the general assembly. An emergency clause of the bill will make it go into operation immediately after it has passed both houses of the legislature and been signed by the governor. Anyone violating the provisions of the law will be guilty of a misdemeanor, the penalty for which will be imprisonment in the county jail for not less than ten days or more than 12 months, or a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$500.

Many Had Teeth Pulled.

Macou—About one hundred dentists of northeast Missouri attended their third annual meeting in this city. A feature of the meeting was free teeth pulling and molar repairing. Ten chairs were running, and there was a constantly increasing line waiting for dental work. One man with sound molars let them yank out a big tooth for illustrative purposes.

Senator Peter Anderson.

Jefferson City—Senator Peter Anderson, elected in St. Louis by 3,099 majority, was here and selected his seat. Senator Anderson is a plasterer, and 19 years ago he put on the mortar on the ceiling over the seat which he will occupy in the highest legislative body in the state.

Aged Man Hangs Himself.

St. Louis—With his wife on the way to the poorhouse, William Henderson, aged 80, a homeless veteran, hanged himself in a police station cell. He had been arrested while attempting to sell a suit of clothes. It developed that the suit had been given him.

Husband and Wife Buried Together.

St. Genevieve—The funeral of M. Seibert and Mary Seibert, his wife, who died within a day of each other, was held here. Their son celebrated solemn requiem mass in the Catholic church. They had been married 40 years.

Returned From the Waters.

St. Louis—During a trip to Europe last summer David Schmidt, of Clayton, threw a bottle containing his card into the ocean. It was returned to him a few days ago, having been found on the shores of England.

Lost Both Legs While Hunting.

St. Louis—Harrison Hochling, a carpenter, lost a leg a year ago by the accidental discharge of a gun while hunting. The other day he went hunting, shot himself in the other leg, and the doctors cut that off.

Must File Statement.

Jefferson City—Candidates, whether defeated or elected, are required, under the provisions of the corrupt practices act, to file with the secretary of state a sworn itemized account of their campaign expenditures.

Missouri Seaman a Suicide.

Newport News, Va.—F. L. Knapp, a first-class seaman aboard the armored cruiser Washington, lying in Hampton Roads, committed suicide aboard the ship. He was from De Soto, Mo.

Passed Away in the Night.

Columbia—Dr. W. H. Phillips, one of the oldest citizens of Rochester, was found dead in bed. He was 85, and was a brother of Federal Judge Phillips of Kansas City.

Spent \$100 for Pictures.

Jefferson City—Congressman Arthur P. Murphy has filed a statement of his campaign expenses. Mr. Murphy's race cost him \$243.39, of which \$100 was for pictures.

Catamount Chases Four Men.

Cape Girardeau—L. Schallmeyer, F. M. Pearce, R. E. Lidke and H. A. Pearce, of St. Louis, say they were chased by a catamount in Carter county.

A State Senator Resigns.

St. Louis—State Senator George W. Reichman has sent his resignation to Gov. Folk. A new election will probably be held to fill the vacancy.

Cornerstone of Masonic Temple.

Springfield—The cornerstone of the Masonic temple, which is to cost between \$40,000 and \$50,000, was laid, with several grand officers present.

Why Gov. Folk Paroled a Man.

Jefferson City—Gov. Folk has paroled John Plummer, of Phelps county, who was convicted on testimony of a negro now in the penitentiary.

A Veteran and a Pioneer.

Lebanon—Capt John Lindsay, aged 83, died at his home near here of paralysis. He was a veteran, a pioneer and former postmaster.

An Early Resident of Rich Hill.

Rich Hill—James W. Irwin, aged 66, an early resident of this city, died here. He came here from Kentucky in 1867, where he was born.

Made Wheat Growers Glad.

Jefferson City—The heavy snow throughout central Missouri was of great benefit to wheat, which was badly in need of moisture.

Cockrell's Health Improved.

Washington—Former Senator Cockrell of Missouri, now a member of the interstate commerce commission, is improving in health.

INSOMNIA CURED

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Restores Wrecked Nerves to Normal Condition and Good Health Followed.

The sufferer from sleeplessness too often resorts to habit-forming drugs in order to secure the coveted rest. But sleep obtained by the use of opiates is not refreshing and the benefit is but temporary at best.

Mrs. H. A. Fletcher, of 59 Blodgett street, Manchester, N. H., is living evidence of the truth of this statement. She says: "I received a shock of an apoplectic character. It was so severe that the sight of my right eye was affected, causing me to see objects double. I was confined to my bed about four weeks, at one time being told by the doctor that I could not get well. When I could leave my bed I was in such a nervous state that I could not sleep at night. I would get up and sit on a chair until completely tired out and then go back to bed and sleep from exhaustion."

"I had been under the doctor's care for six weeks when my sister, Mrs. Leveaux, of Everett, persuaded me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I began taking the pills with the result that I soon experienced relief. One night soon after taking them I lay awake only a short time and the next night I rested well. From that time I slept well every night and soon got well and strong. I have recommended Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a number of times, and my niece has taken them for weak nerves and poor blood and found them very beneficial."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have cured many severe nervous troubles, headache, neuralgia and sciatica as well as diseases of the blood such as anæmia, rheumatism, pale and sallow complexion and many forms of weakness. All druggists sell Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, or they will be sent by mail postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cents per box, six boxes for \$2.50, by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

The man of many parts seldom parts his name in the middle.

Smokers appreciate the quality value of Lewis' Single Binder cigar. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

There's a lot of people so perfectly good they cannot give the rest of us a chance to be pretty good.

Defiance Starch is the latest invention in that line and an improvement on all other makes; it is more economical, does better work, takes less time. Get it from any grocer.

Japanese Patent Medicines.

The Japanese, having discovered the possibilities of profit in patent medicines, are extending their markets for them in China, Korea and the south sea islands.

With a smooth iron and Defiance Starch, you can launder your shirt-waist just as well at home as the steam laundry can; it will have the proper stiffness and finish, there will be less wear and tear of the goods, and it will be a positive pleasure to use a Starch that does not stick to the iron.

Washington Monument Bends.

The towering Washington monument, solid as it is, cannot resist the heat of the sun, poured on its southern side on a midsummer's day, without a slight bending of the gigantic shaft which is rendered perceptible by means of a copper wire, 174 feet long, hanging in the center of the structure and carrying a plummet suspended in a vessel of water.

Laundry work at home would be much more satisfactory if the right Starch were used. In order to get the desired stiffness, it is usually necessary to use